

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes new Figure 5.

Attachment: New sheet

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 1-12 were previously pending in this application. By this amendment, Applicant is canceling claim 2 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 3 and 7 have been amended. As a result, claims 1, 3-12 are pending for examination with claim 1 being an independent claim. No new matter has been added.

Drawings

The drawings are objected for allegedly not showing the features disclosed in claim 7 and 11.

With respect to claim 7, the Examiner contends that the figures do not disclose a “single” motor and a “single” transmission. Applicant respectfully disagrees. In this regard, claim 7 is not limited to a “single” motor/transmission and FIG. 2 shows “at least one motor” as claimed. However, to clarify, the Applicants have amended claim 7.

With respect to claim 11, the Examiner contends that the figures do not disclose a stand being “integrated” in the base. Applicants have added new Figure 5 (which is otherwise identical to Figure 4) showing a stand integrally formed with its base. Support for this drawing addition is at least disclosed in claim 11 as originally filed and paragraph 19 of the specification (page 3, 6th paragraph). Amendments to the specification have been made to reflect the inclusion of Figure 5.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1 and 4-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Fujiwara (U.S. 5,746,282). The remaining claims 2, 3 and 8-12 stand rejected as being obvious in view of various combination of Fujiwara, Andreen (WO 95/20514), Andes (U.S. Patent No. 6,443,252) and/or Salmon (DE 100 10 852).

Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the subject matter of claim 2. However, the rejection of claim 2 as being obvious over Fujiwara in view of Andréen is traversed.

Fujiwara is directed to a power-assisted cart 10 including a wheeled platform 1 with left and right driving wheels 2a, 2b and front and rear casters 3a, 3b. A drive unit 6 may be in the form of two electric drive motors 6a, 6b which may be fixed to the underside of the platform. The cart also includes a handle 4 mounted on the platform and the cart may be controlled by an operating unit provided on the handle.

The Examiner appears to be of the opinion that a combination of Fujiwara (US 5,746,282) and Andréen (WO 95/20514) would teach an accumulator arrangement mounted on the underside of a base of a cart. However, Andréen does not teach an accumulator arrangement on the underside of a base of a cart, (see Figure 3 of Andréen). The wheels 2a are arranged on the underside of the cart's base, whereas the chargeable battery 21 and the battery charger 22 are not arranged at the underside of the base, but are arranged on top of the base. For example, in Figure 3 of the present application the accumulator 10 is mounted on the same side as the wheels are, whereas in Figure 3 of Andréen, the battery is mounted on the opposite side of the wheels. Therefore, Andréen does not disclose the features of claim 2.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1, as now amended, overcomes the rejection.


CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that minor clarifying amendments to the claim would be helpful, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to please charge our Deposit Account No. 23/2825 under Docket No. H0075.70115US00 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: July 22, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments